



Annual Report 2007

  
**netball**  
AUSTRALIA  
*Celebrating 80 Years*

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## Highlights

- Australia re-claimed the world number one ranking, winning the 2007 New World Netball World Championships in Auckland.
- Netball Australia established its headquarters in Australia's sporting capital, Melbourne and recruited a team of highly qualified and experienced sport administrators.
- The Netball Australia Board set strategic priorities for 2008-2010 following an extensive consultative planning process with Member Organisations.
- Federal Government funding of \$2.4 million over three years was secured to support the establishment of the ANZ Championship teams, roll out Net Set GO! and implement a national Indigenous strategy.
- The Commonwealth Bank Trophy was farewelled in style over a Finals Series weekend in Sydney, with the Sydney TAB Swifts winning a fourth title.
- Australia announced New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia as the five successful franchises to compete in the inaugural trans-Tasman ANZ Championship to start in April 2008.
- ANZ Bank's naming rights sponsorship of the ANZ Championship competition makes it one of the largest-ever for a women's sport in Australia.
- Australian captain Liz Ellis announced her retirement after a stellar 18-year career at the top which featured 122 Test caps, three World Netball Championships titles, two Commonwealth Games gold medals and four Commonwealth Bank Trophy titles.
- Australian players Selina Gilsean, Laura von Bertouch and former players Peta Scholz and Natalie Avellino announced their retirements.

## Strategic Review

Netball, a fast, skilful team sport, is the most popular women's sport in Australia with an estimated one million players nationwide. At an international level Australia is well respected by over 70 affiliate countries, having won nine of the 12 World Netball Championships held since 1963.

In 2007, Netball Australia underwent an organisation-wide strategic review to redefine its business and identified the priority areas that will shape the long-term development of the organisation and the sport.

### Vision

Netball - one team, one game, one goal.

### Mission

Commercially driven, stakeholder focused and recognised as a world class sporting organisation.

### Values

#### Passion

- We care about our organisation, our people and our purpose
- We are motivated, high achievers and celebrate great outcomes

#### Teamwork

- We work together for a common goal and create a harmonious environment by:
  - Contributing as individuals
  - Being adaptable and flexible
  - Supporting others

#### Integrity

- We act in an ethically responsible manner
- We are honest and treat people with respect

### Excellence

- We perform at the highest level and benchmark against the best
- We aim for continuous improvement and innovation in everything we do

### Accountability

- We are responsible and take ownership for outcomes
- We find solutions and resolve problems
- We are clear about our roles and responsibilities and decision making authority

### Definition of Success

#### One brand for netball

- Netball Australia is a trusted community leader
- Corporate partners are chosen based on their alignment with Netball Australia's values
- Netball is a global game due to Netball Australia's influence

#### Netball is an Australian success story

- Australia is ranked number one in the world
- There are sell-out crowds at all national and international events
- Netball coaches, umpires and players are household names and positive role models
- High profile people are actively involved with netball
- The netball product is embraced by commercial media and its audience
- Netball is a "key sport" in digital media and its website has high hit rates and downloads
- Netball merchandise is a mass product, in high demand and a major revenue stream
- Increased membership across players, officials, coaches and volunteers

**Members share and enjoy netball's achievements and successes**

- Everyone who plays netball is contributing to netball in Australia
- Member's equity is increased substantially
- Netball is a top-down funded sport

**More people experience netball**

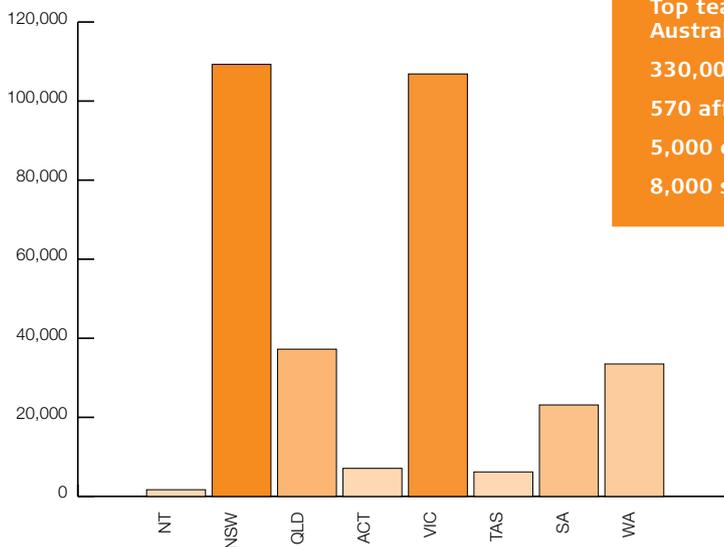
- An accurate member profile and population demographics ensures facility and product planning and development anticipate changing requirements
- Netball is relevant to new Australians and helps them engage with the community
- Every child experiences Net Set GO!

**We will achieve success by:**

- Understanding the environment in which we operate
- Being responsible financial managers
- Focusing on our members
- Developing quality processes
- Developing quality people
- Valuing our tradition and culture
- High performance excellence

**Structure**

Registered Participants by State/Territory



NT 1,683  
 NSW 109,282  
 QLD 37,249  
 ACT 7,088  
 VIC 106,866  
 TAS 6,188  
 SA 23,135  
 WA 33,501

**8 affiliated States and Territories**  
**1.2 million participants nationally**  
**Top team sport in Australia (15-24 years)**  
**330,000 registered members**  
**570 affiliated associations**  
**5,000 clubs nationally**  
**8,000 schools**

## Board of Directors' Report

### By Noeleen Dix, President

On behalf of the Board, I am delighted to present the Netball Australia 2007 Annual Report.

Watching Australian captain Liz Ellis hold the World Netball Championships trophy aloft was a fitting end to a year that heralded a new beginning for the organisation.

### World Championships

The 2007 World Netball Championships campaign was long and tough for all Australian Team members, but the hard work and detailed preparation paid off. Australia won the title for a record ninth time, with a memorable duel against the New Zealand Silver Ferns in front of a capacity crowd at Auckland's Trusts Stadium. The Board acknowledges the entire Australian Netball Team, capably led by coach, Norma Plummer and captain, Liz Ellis. The Board also offers congratulations to Liz Ellis, an icon of the game, who retired on a high at the end of the Championships, along with teammates Selina Gilsenan and Laura von Bertouch.

### Relocation

The relocation from Sydney to Melbourne commenced in February when a temporary office was opened, with the assistance of the AFL, at the Docklands. The Board would like to thank the former Netball Australia staff for their commitment to the organisation during this transition. The recruitment process was very successful with high quality sport administrators appointed in Melbourne. Netball Australia re-located to its permanent headquarters at 140 King Street, Melbourne in December.

### International Affairs

International Congress met at the World Netball Championships to discuss and workshop a range of topics. Congress approved several new rules which were recommended by the International Rules Review Committee. Congratulations to Chair, Maureen Boyle who facilitated the rules debate.

A new world ranking system will be launched by IFNA in 2008, with World Champions, Australia ranked number one.

Singapore will host the 2011 World Netball Championships following a vote by Congress. Australia was disappointed not to win the right to host the Championships and the Board would like to offer congratulations to Singapore.

Congratulations also to Chris Burton who completed her service on the IFNA Board and to Sue Taylor who was elected at Congress for four years. I was delighted to be elected Vice President of the Asian Netball Federation. Fellow countries in the Asian Federation have been very active in developing netball in their region and Netball Australia is keen to offer advice and support.

### Commonwealth Bank Trophy

After 11 successful seasons, the Commonwealth Bank Trophy was celebrated across a Finals Series weekend at Acer Arena in Sydney. Netball Australia is indebted to the Commonwealth Bank for its sponsorship of this competition since its inception. This significant investment changed the face of netball and signalled a new professionalism in the sport. The Board also extends thanks to the ABC who televised the elite competition, building the national profile of the sport and individual athletes.

### ANZ Championship

The ANZ Championship is now a reality. The semi-professional league features five teams from Australia and five from New Zealand in a successful joint trans-Tasman venture with Netball New Zealand.

The securing of ANZ as the competition's naming rights sponsor – one of the largest ever for a women's sport in Australia – underlined the significance of the new competition in heralding a new era for the sport. Key broadcast partnerships with Fox Sports and SKY TV in New Zealand were secured, ensuring that millions of fans on both sides of the Tasman can watch the best players in action live in 69 matches over 14 weeks.



The support and advice from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) was important to the competition's development and the Board is grateful for the investment from the ASC to fund the establishment costs of the ANZ Championship. The ASC are a great supporter of netball and we appreciate their contribution.

Thank you to those involved in developing this exciting concept, including former Board members, David Bell and Lydia Dowse, and former Netball Australia Chief Executive Lindsay Cane. The current Netball Australia Board has shouldered much of the responsibility to ensure the governance, financial and legal structures and principles are in place. Jacqui Murdoch, Netball Australia CEO, Kate Palmer and I were appointed to the newly established Tasman Trophy Netball League Board (TTNL).

### Strategic Planning

A planning project commenced in September 2006 at the National Strategic Forum in Adelaide and concluded in September 2007 following a two day workshop in Brisbane. Representatives from all Member Organisations contributed to the planning process and the feedback and recommendations from the workshop were critical to the Board's final decisions on strategic priorities. Netball Australia's strategic priorities for the next three years also provide a framework for future debate about key issues impacting on the sport.

The strategic priorities are:

- Rebrand netball so it is contemporary, relevant and compelling
- Involve key business leaders, community and government and determine what role they could and should play, as an advisor or partner
- Create a range of new products and merchandise which is appealing to a broad market
- Use interactive, contemporary digital media to make netball a part of life
- Implement Net Set Go!

I would like to extend a personal vote of thanks to my fellow directors for their hard work and tireless contribution. I have greatly valued their support and commitment to our objectives.

Thank you to retiring Board members Lyn Clark-Duff and Lydia Dowse, and Marj Kerlake for their service to the organisation. Congratulations to Debra Tippett who was elected at the Annual General Meeting in April and Marina Go who was appointed in August. Marina's vast media and communications experience has been very important in guiding our strategies.

The Board continues to review its corporate governance policies and procedures to ensure it fulfils its obligations and meets expectations of stakeholders. We are confident of taking advantage of the many opportunities ahead of us and in every sense we are excited about the future.

## CEO's Report

### By Kate Palmer, CEO

Over the past 12 months Netball Australia relocated from Sydney to Melbourne, employed a whole new team, the ANZ Championship and Australian Netball League became realities, a new three year strategic plan was developed and most importantly, Australia re-gained its rightful place at the top of the world rankings. The World Championships victory was a perfect end to the year.

The ability of the Netball Australia Board and staff and the Member Organisations to not only cope, but to thrive in this environment is a credit to the sport and to those individuals who met every challenge.

### Operating Results

It was pleasing to end the year with a surplus of \$317,979 (2006 \$152,428 deficit) which is a \$407,407 improvement on 2006. This represents strong governance including the Risk and Audit Committee consisting of Pam Smith, Katrina O'Sullivan and Noeleen Dix and sound financial management by all staff members. ASC funding of \$400,000 contributed to this result.

### ANZ Championship

Strategic development continued in earnest as the ANZ Championship competition became a reality. Tony Holding was appointed General Manager and Netball Australia announced New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia as the five successful franchises to compete in the inaugural competition.

The focus now shifts to implementation and delivery of the new competition. The strategic partnership with Netball New Zealand is prospering and we look forward to working together for the benefit of our sport on both sides of the Tasman.

### Partners

Federal Government funding of \$2.4 million over the next three years will provide an opportunity for Netball Australia to support the Member Organisations to establish their ANZ Championship teams, to roll out Net Set Go! in every State and Territory and to implement a national indigenous strategy. This funding, along with the ANZ Championship seed funding of \$400,000 from the ASC, provides a much needed boost for the organisation.

We are indebted to the wonderful corporate partners and suppliers who help build our sport. I refer you to the commercial report which provides an overview of the outcomes of these partnerships. I would like to thank Bille Evans from The Athlete's Foot and wish her all the best on her retirement. Bille's passion for netball and commitment to lifting the profile has been astonishing.

### Heritage

The final project archivist Ronda Kimble worked on prior to her retirement was the netball display at the new National Sport Museum which opens in March 2008. The Netball Australia archives have been in the expert hands of Ronda for many years and it was exciting to house all historical material in a purpose built room in the new office.

### Human Resources

The relocation from Sydney to Melbourne resulted in redundancies for Sydney-based staff. I would like to thank these staff members for their outstanding service to the organisation. Special thanks to Ronda Kimble, Jennifer Silva, Lesley Zeinert, Jenny Webster, Alexe Nixon and Janet Bothwell for their long service. Their contribution to the organisation is highly valued.

Thank you to the entire Netball Australia team, including our partners, members and the volunteers, for their valuable contribution to the ongoing success of the organisation. We look forward to delivering an even better business in 2008.

Thank you to the Board and staff for their support and encouragement during my first 12 months as Chief Executive. It is a great honour to lead this organisation.

## Board of Directors

### Noeleen Dix, President



A former Australian player and Executive Officer of Netball Australia, Noeleen was a member of the Board from 2002 until 2005 and

was elected President in 2006. She is currently Chair of the TTNL Board and Vice President of the Asian Netball Federation. The highly-respected sports administrator was Manager of the 1991 World Netball Championships in Sydney, Program Manager - Competition for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, and held management roles with the Australian Masters Games and 1997 World Basketball Championships for Men (22/U).

### Katrina O'Sullivan, Director



Appointed in April 2001, Katrina holds formal qualifications in Business and Health Services and is a Fellow of the Australian

Institute of Office Professionals. Formerly an administrator and coach at club and local association level, Katrina has served as a Netball Victoria Director and Administrative Officer for the South Australia Netball Association (SANA).

### Sue Taylor AM, Director



Sue is a former President and Chair of the Netball Australia Board, Chair of the Board of the National Netball League, a national selector and

International Delegate to International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA). Internationally, she has been a Director of the World Championship Company, Commonwealth Games Federation Director, Australian Commonwealth Games Association Vice President and Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Board Member. In 2007, Sue was elected to the Board of IFNA for a four-year period.

### Pam Smith, Director



Re-appointed in 2006, Pam served a previous term on the Board from 1995-2003. A former Netball Australia National Executive Director,

Pam was Vice President of IFNA from 2003-2005, Director of the Commonwealth Games Association and the Australian Commonwealth Games Foundation. Currently the Chief Executive Officer of Young Achievement Australia, she is also Deputy Chair – Parramatta Stadium Trust.

### Jan Sutherland JP, Director



Currently the CEO of the SA Sports Federation, Jan was previously on the Board 2000-2004 and re-elected in September 2006.

Formerly a Physical Education teacher, board member of SANA, Australian Masters Games, State Age coach (level 2) and A grade Umpire. Current roles include Justice of the Peace, Board member – Service Skills SA, SA Senior Secondary Assessment Board Advisory – PE & VET and a member of the Volunteers Ministerial Advisory Group (SA government).

### Debra Tippett, Director



A former President of Netball ACT, Debra was elected in April 2007. A Director of Netball ACT from 2000-2005 and President from 2002-2005, she was also a member of the Netball Australia Council.

Debra is a partner in the law firm Minter Ellison.

## Marina Go, Director

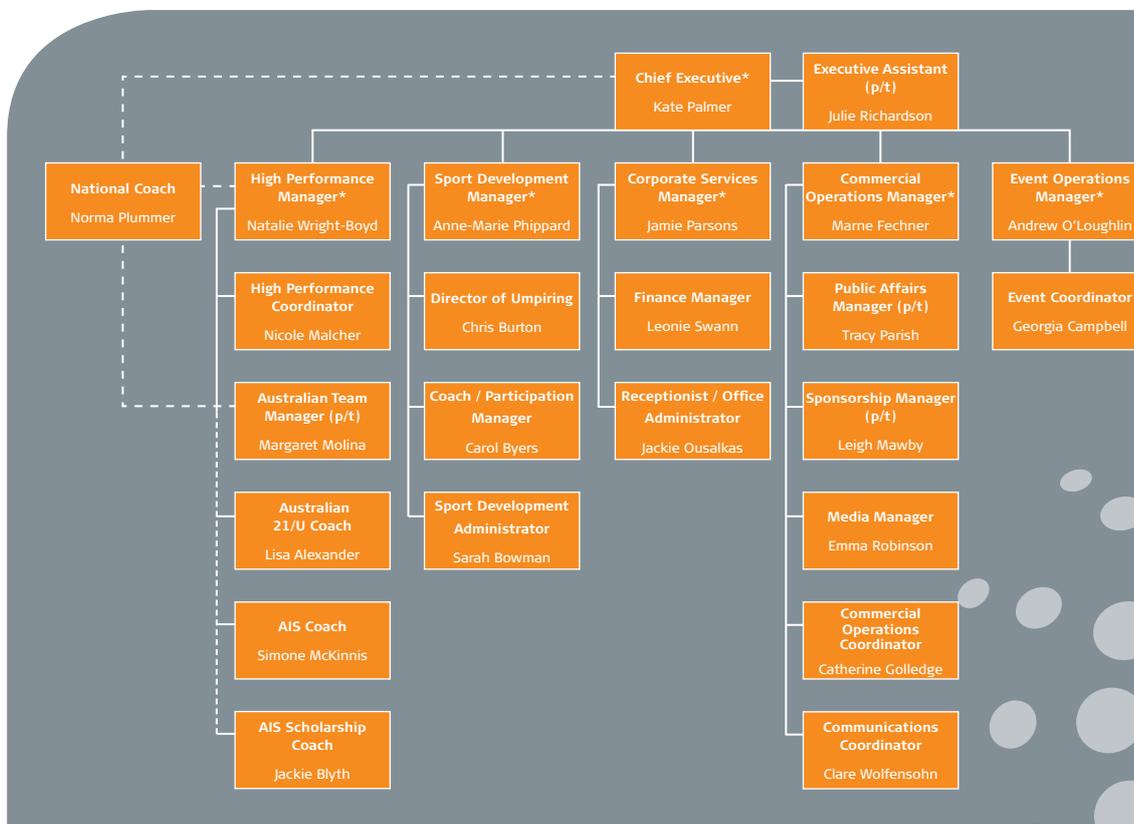


Marina was appointed to the Netball Australia Board in August 2007. Editor of Dolly magazine at just 23, Marina was also editor of Sunday Life, ELLE, Cosmopolitan, and Australian Good Taste magazines. She has held positions as Executive Director of EMAP Australia; Non-executive Director of The Apparel Group; Group Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Pacific Publications and Publishing Director of The Women's Group at EMAP Australia. Marine is currently a Director of Titanium Media.

## Chief Executive, Kate Palmer



A former Victorian player and Netball Victoria CEO from 2000 to 2006, Kate was appointed in November 2006. Kate is a trustee of the Melbourne Cricket Ground, a member of the Deakin University Sport Management Program Advisory Group and has been a director of Triathlon Victoria. Kate has formal qualifications in Sport Science and Sport Management.



## Organisation

With Netball Australia's relocation of its head office from Harris Park in Sydney to Melbourne, a major recruitment process was undertaken in January to build a new team. The organisation was re-structured into five key business areas – High Performance, Commercial, Sport Development, Event Operations and Business Services.

From February to May 2007, 20 staff joined the organisation, bringing a diverse range of skills and experiences from major events, education, human resource management, media, international Paralympic organisations and sporting bodies.

## Australia's Campaign

Australia (82)  
def. Samoa (26)

Australia (78)  
def. Trinidad &  
Tobago (34)

Australia (93)  
def. Scotland (20)

Quarter-final:  
Australia (90)  
def. Cook  
Islands (22)

Semi-final:  
Australia (51)  
def. England (33)

Final:  
Australia (42) def.  
New Zealand (38)

## Australian Netball Team - 2007 World Champions



It was a moment they will always treasure...the final whistle blew as a huge roar from the Aussie fans lifted the roof at Auckland's Trusts Stadium and the Australian Netball Team rejoiced as one - as the 2007 World Champions! Players fell to the floor, embracing their team mates in wild celebration, united in their euphoria - they had lived their dream.

In a gallant arm-wrestle with arch rival the New Zealand Silver Ferns the Australian Netball Team countered every challenge to clinch the title by four goals, 42 to 38. That night - November 17, 2007 - will be forever etched in their minds. For skipper, Liz Ellis, Sharelle McMahon and Catherine Cox the victory was extra sweet, erasing the memories of Jamaica 2003 when they were part of the Australian Team that had lost a close final to the Silver Ferns.

"It means so much. We have worked so hard for this," McMahon said. "We knew we had it in us. I am just so proud of all the girls. I hated it four years ago, it was awful and this feels so much better."

Ellis, a veteran of four World Championships campaigns, knew going into the final that it would be her last match wearing the green and gold and explained afterwards that a range of emotions swept over her once victory was clinched.

"There was relief, happiness, excitement. We've just worked so hard and sacrificed an awful lot for this," she said.

Years of planning by national coach, Norma Plummer had paid off. Australia produced its best when it mattered most. Inspirationally, wing defence Selina Gilson returned to the starting line-up for the final showdown after a serious ankle injury had sidelined her for the quarter-final and semi-final clashes. Australia's enviable player depth was a winning factor - but so too were the relentless hours of preparation and hard work on and off the court that went into finetuning this world class winning combination.

And so the celebrations began....A rousing rendition of 'Waltzing Matilda' echoed from the Australian dressing room as the players and coaching staff popped the champagne corks to celebrate their dream come true.

*November  
10-17, 2007 at Trusts  
Stadium, Auckland,  
New Zealand*

### Team:

Liz Ellis (Captain),  
Sharelle McMahon  
(Vice-captain),  
Bianca Chatfield,  
Catherine Cox,  
Mo'onia Gerrard,  
Selina Gilson,  
Natalie Medhurst,  
Lauren Nourse,  
Susan Pratley,  
Julie Prendergast,  
Laura von Bertouch,  
Natalie von Bertouch,  
Norma Plummer (Coach),  
Susan Kenny  
(Assistant Coach),  
Margaret Molina  
(Team Manager),  
Dr. Michael Makdissi  
(Team Doctor),  
Sean Mungovan  
(Physiotherapist),  
Matthew Durston  
(Massage Therapist),  
Lyndell Bruce  
(Performance Analyst).

## High Performance

### Australian Netball Team

The year culminated in the 2007 New World Netball World Championships from November 10-17 in Auckland. Forward planning by the previous incumbents ensured that the Australian Team played the leading world ranked teams – New Zealand, Jamaica and England – during the England tour in May and the Holden Netball Test Series in Australia in July as part of their build-up for the World Championships. To further assist with the Australian Team's preparation expert consultants and services were utilised including Performance Global Consulting and IDQ.

### 2007 Australian Open Squad

Liz Ellis (Captain), Sharelle McMahon (Vice-captain), Rebecca Bulley, Bianca Chatfield, Natasha Chokljat, Catherine Cox, Mo'onia Gerrard, Selina Gilsean, Kimberlee Green, Kristen Hughes, Natalie Medhurst, Lauren Nourse, Susan Pratley, Julie Prendergast, Caitlin Thwaites, Laura von Bertouch, Natalie von Bertouch, Norma Plummer (Coach), Nicole Cusack, (Assistant Coach) Roselee Jencke (Assistant Coach), Susan Kenny (Assistant Coach), Margaret Molina (Team Manager), Dr. Michael Makdissi (Team Doctor), Sean Mungovan (Physiotherapist), Matthew Durston (Massage Therapist), Lyndell Bruce (Performance Analyst).



### 2007 Results

#### Tri-Nations Series in England

May 15, 2007, National Indoor Arena, Birmingham  
Australia (50) def. New Zealand (47)

May 17, 2007, Earl's Court Arena, London  
Australia (47) def. England (40)

#### Holden Netball Test Series

July 5, 2007, State Netball Hockey Centre, Melbourne  
Australia (66) def. Jamaica (62)

July 8, 2007, Sydney Olympic Sports Centre, Sydney  
Australia (72) def. Jamaica (53)

#### Fisher & Paykel Series

July 18, 2007, Vector Arena, Auckland  
Australia (53) def. New Zealand (46)

July 21, 2007, Vodafone Arena, Melbourne  
New Zealand (67) def. Australia (65) in double overtime

July 24, 2007, Distinctive Homes Dome, Adelaide  
Australia (54) def. New Zealand (47)

### Australian 21/U Team

Following a series of camps at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) the Australian 21/U Team was selected on June 3. The team featured six members from Victoria and four from New South Wales. On tour in Melbourne, they matched their skills against the England squad on July 2 and 6 and against Jamaica's Sunshine Girls on July 4.

### 2007 Representatives

Sarah Ashmore (VIC), Madison Browne (VIC), Johannah Curran (VIC), Susan Fuhrmann (WA), Laura Geitz (QLD), Kimberlee Green (NSW), Renae Hallinan (VIC), Alexandra Harding (NSW), Janelle Lawson (ACT), Sharni Layton (VIC), Samantha May (NSW), Leah Shoard (NSW), Caitlin Thwaites (VIC), Lisa Alexander (Coach), Simone McKinnis (Assistant Coach), Louise Pilling (Manager), Steve Hawkins (Physiotherapist), Dr Leesa Huguenin (Doctor), Gamal Darwish (Massage Therapist).

### Future Direction

A long-range plan through to 2015 will be developed by the High Performance Unit to achieve Australia's objective of retaining the number one world ranking as a team and organisation. The flexible and integrated program will recognise the cyclical nature of international competition and provide experiences for emerging and current athletes, coaches and team officials.

New methods will effectively communicate the governance and management of the High Performance program to all levels of netball, including the effective management of the national Sports Science and Sports Medicine (SSSM) framework.

### Australian Institute of Sport

The AIS Netball program, led by Head Coach Simone McKinnis, uses the best coaches, sports science and medical staff to develop the mental and physical skills needed to perform at national and international level, and works with athletes to continue their education and career development beyond sport. An informative CD was developed for prospective athletes and parents, featuring feedback from past graduates and national/international players. Special thanks to Don Cameron, Group Sport Manager and Phil Borgeaud, Assistant Director Sports Programs at the AIS for their ongoing support.

### Future Direction

The AIS partnership will continue through national team camps to prepare athletes for international competition in the build-up to the 2009 World Youth Cup. An AIS-based team will contest the inaugural Australian Netball League from August 2008.

### Talent Identification and Development Program

The Long Term Athlete Development Plan (LTAD) was implemented at national regional academy level with delivery of the program on CD and DVD, and sessions conducted by scholarship coach Jackie Blyth. A National Underage Talent Camp was held at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) from July 5 to 8 for 17/U and 19/U identified athletes.

### Future Direction

The talent identification and development program aims to develop of a large pool of well rounded, world class athletes. A major component of the Athlete Pathway is the Daily Training Environment (DTE) which must be clearly articulated, understood and operational at all levels of the pathway. Research and development of phase two of the LTAD will be undertaken in order to achieve this.



## National Netball Championships

Australia's leading emerging players were selected by their states to compete in the 2007 National Netball Championships at 17/U, 19/U and 21/U levels. The annual championships are a crucial element in the Athlete Pathway to identify and select players for the Australian 21/U national squad.

The Victorian 21/U team claimed its second consecutive national title with a resounding 25 goal victory over New South Wales, 61-36 in the Grand Final showdown in Brisbane. It was a stunning reversal of form for Victoria who had lost to NSW by 10 goals in the round-robin clash. In the playoff for third and fourth, Western Australia and Queensland jostled for the lead in the first three quarters before WA broke the deadlock to win 48-39.

### Team of the 2007 21/U National Netball Championships

Madison Browne (VIC), Sophie Croft (QLD), Susan Fuhrmann (WA), Laura Geitz (QLD), Andrea Gilmore (WA), Kimberlee Green (NSW), Ashlee Howard (VIC), Sharni Layton (VIC), Samantha May (NSW), Jacinta Messer (QLD), Leah Shoard (NSW) and Caitlin Thwaites (VIC).

Accuracy in the goal circle clinched NSW the 17/U national title, eclipsing arch-rivals Victoria, 21-15 in a low-scoring arm-wrestle. In the 19/U final, Victoria dominated, opening up a five goal halftime lead against South Australia before securing the title with a 10 goal winning margin, 32-22.

## 2007 21/U National Netball Championships

October 1-6, 2007,  
State Netball Centre, Brisbane

Grand Final - Victoria (61)  
def. New South Wales (36)

3 v 4 Playoff - Western Australia (48)  
def. Queensland (39)

## The Athlete's Foot 2007 17/U and 19/U National Netball Championships

April 10-15, 2007, State Netball  
Hockey Centre, Melbourne

### 17/U

17/U Grand Final - New South Wales (21)  
def. Victoria (15)

17/U 3 v 4 Playoff - Queensland (32)  
def. South Australia (18)

### 19/U

19/U Grand Final - Victoria (32)  
def. South Australia (22)

19/U 3 v 4 Playoff - New South Wales (47)  
def. Western Australia (25)





## Liz Ellis – Australian Captain – A Brilliant Career

Australian captain and legendary player, Liz Ellis bowed out of the sport on a high after leading the national team to World Championships glory in Auckland in November 2007.

Revered as a fearless, tenacious and inspirational defender, Ellis left the court after a brilliant 18-year career at the top, having achieved every personal and team accolade possible, including World titles, Commonwealth Games gold, national league MVP awards and national league titles with her beloved Sydney TAB Swifts.

The 34-year-old, who is Australia's most capped player of all time, says the timing felt right: "Winning the World Championship proved a fairytale ending. I am really privileged for the career I have had and to top it off with a win like that with this great team is the perfect ending."

Netball Australia President, Noeleen Dix paid tribute to Ellis' outstanding contribution to the game. "Liz will be remembered as one of the most brilliant and talented players ever to wear the green and gold. She has been an inspirational leader for Australia and the Sydney TAB Swifts and a wonderful role model for so many aspiring players. The netball community salutes this great athlete on her stellar career," Dix said.

### AUSTRALIA

- Australian Netball Team 1993-2007
- Australian Captain  
2004 –2007 (Vice-captain 2000-2003)
- Most capped Australian player of all time  
- 122 Test Matches
- Competed at four World  
Netball Championships and two  
Commonwealth Games
- Won three World Championship titles  
- 1995, 1999 and 2007
- Won two Commonwealth Games gold  
medals - 1998 and 2002

### SYDNEY TAB SWIFTS

- Sydney TAB Swifts Captain, 2000-2007  
(Vice Captain 1997-1999)
- Four Commonwealth Bank Trophy titles  
with Swifts - 2001, 2004, 2006 and 2007
- Most capped Commonwealth Bank  
Trophy player – 173 matches
- Commonwealth Bank Trophy Most Valued  
Player – 1996, 1998, 2002 and 2006



**“ Winning the World Championship proved a fairytale ending. I am really privileged for the career I have had and to top it off with a win like that with this great team is the perfect ending. ”**

## Sport Development

### Participation

**Net Set GO!** Netball Australia's junior development program was piloted in Victoria, ACT and Queensland and will be rolled out nationally in 2008. This program received \$1.2 million over three years from the Australian Government.

Another area to benefit from this funding boost was **Indigenous Sport** which will receive \$200,000 in 2007 - 2008 to establish a national Indigenous netball strategy. Netball WA, Netball ACT and Netball Victoria have been funded to deliver indigenous programs via the Australian Sports Commission's Indigenous Sports Program.

Netball Australia, in partnership with the Australian Sports Commission, is part of **Sport CONNECT** which provides assistance to national sports organisations to develop and deliver a national disability inclusion strategy. Netball Australia has also established a Netball CONNECT Advisory group to assist with the development of this strategy.

Building on the successful implementation of the **Medibank 1Seven** program, 811 primary schools registered in the 1Seven program nationally. 1Seven is a national health and wellbeing program for that encourages children to participate in at least one hour of physical activity and to eat seven serves of fruit and vegetables every day.

### Future Direction

The Net Set GO! Junior Development Program has been identified as a strategic priority for 2008. Work will begin on the development of a National Indigenous Strategy, including the establishment of an Indigenous Netball Consultancy Group. The unit will also develop and implement a National Disability Action Plan and, in conjunction with the AFL, coordinate the 1Seven program nationally.

### Coach Development

A new Coach Accreditation Framework developed this year and approved by the Australian Sports Commission will be rolled out nationally in 2008. Formal Presenter and Assessor Accreditation courses have been developed and approved by the ASC, and representatives from each Member Organisation received training to deliver this accreditation.

A total of 1,903 coaches were accredited in 2007, including Queensland Firebirds coach, Vicki Wilson and newly-appointed Australian 21/U coach, Simone McKinnis who successfully completed their High Performance Coach Accreditation.

Coach Accreditation	Accredited in 2007	Accredited in 2006
Level 1 - New:	1,468	1,333
Level 1 - Update:	361	300
Level 2 - New:	16	10
Level 2 - Update:	42	27
Level 3 - New:	2	3
Level 3 - Update:	14	11

### Future Direction

A competency-based national coach accreditation framework will be implemented. This will be supported by a competency-based presenter, assessor and mentor accreditation framework to provide development and mentoring opportunities for identified coaches.

Netball Australia will conduct the Elite and High Performance Coaching Accreditation Courses, provide opportunities for professional development and exposure to international competitions and events for High Performance Coaches.

To support the development of the national coaching framework, the "Beyond the Court" High Performance Coaching Conference will be held from February 14 - 15, 2008 in Melbourne.

## Umpire Development

It has been a fantastic year for umpiring in Australia. Congratulations to the following umpires for their outstanding performances in the national and international arenas:

- Nikki Boyd and Paula Ferguson awarded International Umpire's Award
- Debra Farrelly and Michelle Phippard obtained International Umpire's Award endorsement
- Collette Brennan, Helen George and Pauline Francisco awarded All Australian Umpires Badge
- Louise McMeeking obtained All Australian Umpires Badge endorsement
- Sharon Kelly, Jacqui Jashari, Nikki Boyd, Paula Ferguson and Kate Wright appointed umpires for the 2007 World Netball Championships
- ASC Scholarship awarded to Tammy Corden from Western Australia

Umpire Accreditation	Accredited in 2007	Accredited in 2006
C Grade - New:	878	831
B Grade - New:	126	123
A Grade - New:	16	15
A Grade - Endorsed:	5	3
All Australia - New:	4	3
All Australia - Endorsed:	1	2
IUA - New:	2	-
IUA - Endorsed:	2	-

## Future Direction

To assist with the Umpire Development policy and program, the unit will continue to consult and communicate with representatives from Member Organisations to implement a competency-based national umpire accreditation framework in 2008.

The Sport Development Unit will select and manage the development of the national pool of umpires and provide a development and competition pathway for identified umpires, including opportunities for Australian umpires to be exposed to international competition and events. A senior testing and talent development panel will be appointed to provide coaching and feedback to identified umpires at Netball Australia events and programs.

## National Infrastructure and Services

The implementation of the National Member Protection Policy reaffirmed Netball Australia's commitment to prevent discrimination and harassment by creating a safe and supportive environment for its members and participants at all levels of the sport.

The enforcement of this Policy will require ongoing commitment at all levels of the sport. It complements a range of other organisational policies including junior netball, umpire development, governance, finance, information technology and privacy policies.

## Future Direction

To increase the standard of service and delivery of netball across the country, the Sport Development Unit will work to develop and implement a best practice national volunteer program. It will also work with key stakeholders to improve and expand the netball facility infrastructure and develop and implement a competency-based score bench accreditation framework for netball in Australia.

## Sharon Kelly - 2007 Umpire of the Year



### How did you first become involved in umpiring?

At school we were encouraged to have a go at umpiring when we were 12, not only to fulfil our duties as a club, but also to help us as players to learn the rules.

### How did you progress to reach the level you are today?

I started at club level and progressed to State Age, State Championships and State League. When I was 14, I was awarded my National C badge. At one of the umpire camps I was selected in the Talent Identification program which subsequently led me to A badge testing, then AA testing, National Pool umpiring and the International Umpiring Award.

### What is the most challenging aspect of your role?

As every game throws new situations at you, different style players, different paced games, I find the most challenging aspect reading the game. If you read the game correctly, you'll be in the right position to see what is happening - when it is happening - and therefore be able to make the right decision.

### What has been the most memorable moment in your career so far?

There are many moments that stand out, however the 1998 Test series between Australia and New Zealand stands out the most. It was an absolute honour to umpire such superb athletes. It was a very close series and experiencing the whole series gave me strength that only that experience can give.

## Commercial Operations

### Commercial

#### Licensing & Merchandise

Velocity Brand Management was appointed in 2006 to manage Netball Australia's licensing program, which included all licensed product for the Commonwealth Bank Trophy and the Australian Netball Team. For the fiscal year 2006/2007, the program generated \$80,093, with six licensees that covered replica clothing, novelty products, DVDs, confectionery and netballs. A memorabilia program based around the 2007 World Netball Championships was successfully introduced this year with limited edition signed items such as balls, dresses and historical photos auctioned on eBay and at the Netball Australia Awards dinner.

#### Future Direction

In conjunction with Velocity and the licensees, the Commercial Operations Unit will develop and implement a coordinated marketing program that drives the sale of licensed product and builds our relationships with licensees and retailers. The memorabilia program will be expanded through 2008.

#### Research

In conjunction with IER, Netball Australia conducted research at the Holden Netball Test Series matches in July targeting current netball spectators. This information proved valuable for sponsorship reporting and future sponsorship negotiations. It allowed us to gain a greater understanding about the effectiveness of our marketing initiatives and established a database of people interested in assisting with research.

#### Future Direction

The Commercial Operations Unit will take a leading role in the implementation of a research program to support evidence-based decision making across program areas such as Net Set GO!, the Australian Netball Team, International Test Series, new programs and Sponsors & Licensees.

#### Cause Related Marketing

Support of charities has occurred on an ad-hoc basis and generally involved either the provision of signed memorabilia, attendance at charity events and/or the collection of funds for charitable causes. In 2007, Netball Australia supported the Commonwealth Bank's charity initiative with Children's Cancer Institute Australia, which raised funds throughout the Commonwealth Bank Trophy season.

#### Future Direction

To support Netball Australia's desire to be a socially responsible organisation, the Commercial Operations Unit will develop and implement a national charity strategy linked with the chosen issue of 'Women's Health' – an issue close to the heart of many netball members.

#### Sponsorship

Two new sponsors, Nestle and Harris, initiated netball-specific marketing campaigns in association with Netball Australia. The Harris Coffee sponsorship provided a new way to deliver benefits to netball members across all levels. The partnership with GM Holden was further strengthened when as major sponsors of the International Test Series it extended its support to the Australian Netball Team's World Championship campaign. Holden generously rewarded the World Championship success by providing each member of the team with a Holden Astra for a year.

#### Future Direction

In the area of sponsorship, the Commercial Operations Unit will further develop long term partnerships. A major goal for 2008 is to secure naming rights sponsors for the Australian Netball Team, Net Set GO! and the International Test Series.

## Branding

A new look Australian Netball Team took the court at the 2007 World Netball Championships. This was phase one in an ongoing project utilising the expertise of Sydney-based company WiteKite.

### Future Direction

Branding has been identified as a strategic priority for 2008. The Commercial Operations Unit will work towards launching a new Australian Netball Team brand. This will incorporate the development and implementation of an advertising and public relations strategy to raise the profile of the Australian Netball Team and its players. A re-refresh of the Netball Australia and Net Set GO! brands in 2008 will ensure a more contemporary, relevant and compelling image.

## Media

Netball received significant coverage across Australia in 2007. Some of the highlights included the live ABC Radio broadcast and streaming of the Adelaide Test against New Zealand, live ABC Radio broadcast of the 2007 World Netball Championship final and a live ABC telecast of the 2007 Commonwealth Bank Trophy Grand Final. In addition, there was high media interest for the Holden Netball Test Series, particularly in Adelaide and an exceptional level of media interest for the World Championship Team, in particular, the retirement of captain, Liz Ellis. Netball Australia successfully implemented a media plan incorporating key messages for all events and conducted media training with players.

### Future Direction

The media and communications team will develop new and build on existing relationships in the media, continue to build the profile of the Australian Netball Team brand and develop key netball personalities. A further priority is to develop and maintain a high quality photo and multi-media library.



## Communications

In 2007, the Netball Australia website ([www.netball.asn.au](http://www.netball.asn.au)) remained the most valuable communication tool with a growing number of visitors regularly visiting the site. Special features were introduced to support the promotion of major events, such as online competitions, wallpapers, player diaries and SMS results services. Netball Australia also established a profile page on the popular online forum MySpace ([www.myspace.netball\\_australia](http://www.myspace.netball_australia)) which allows members of MySpace to engage in online blogs, to watch videos and connect with other netball fans.

### Future Direction

The Commercial Operations Unit will investigate new ways to communicate with key stakeholders in a timely, relevant, contemporary and cost effective manner. In addition to maintaining and developing the website, new communication tools will use a range of technologies, including the re-launch of the e-newsletter. One of the highlights of 2008 will be a number of communications activities to celebrate Netball Australia's 80<sup>th</sup> Year.

## Sharelle McMahon

### 2007 Commonwealth Bank Trophy Most Valued Player

#### What has been the highlight of your netball career so far?

I have had so many great experiences in my career - travelling to amazing parts of the world has certainly been a highlight. On court there are two moments that stand out – the 1999 World Championship win and winning the Gold Medal at the 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games in double extra time.

#### What are you looking forward to as netball moves into a new era with the ANZ Championship?

It's a very exciting time for netball and I am definitely looking forward to playing against the New Zealand teams! Hopefully the new competition will allow the profile of netball and its amazing athletes to increase which will allow greater opportunity for players at the elite level and also create a flow on effect to the grass roots level too.

#### What will be your most significant challenge going forward in the sport?

A new and exciting challenge for me will be working with the new Victorian team in the ANZ Championship – the Melbourne Vixens. Although the team is being built on from the great clubs of Melbourne Phoenix and Kestrels, it is basically being built from scratch and will need significant work on public recognition of the team and the building of a strong team culture.

#### Of all the players in the Commonwealth Bank Trophy this year, how did it feel to be singled out as this year's MVP?

I'm very honoured to receive the MVP award. It was a huge year for our club the Melbourne Phoenix, being its last year of existence. We unfortunately couldn't come away with the premiership despite putting everything we had into it. While you don't play for individual awards, this is one that I will be very proud of.



## Event Operations

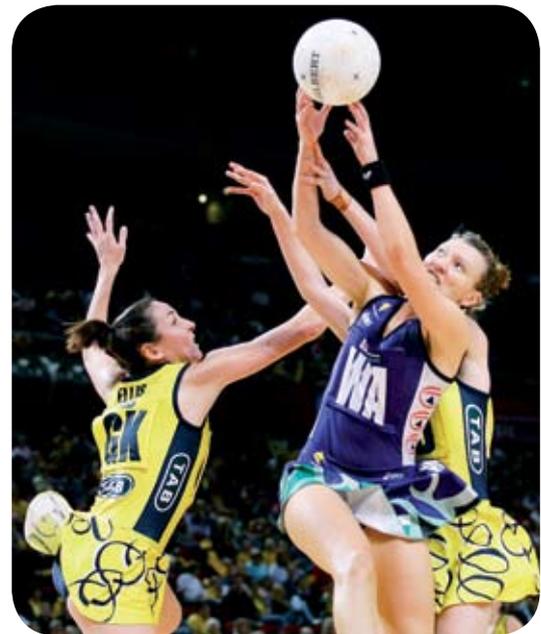
### Holden Netball Test Series

A successful and entertaining Holden Netball Test Series was held in three Australian cities, Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide in July. Netball fans sold out the Adelaide Test - the first international staged in that city for 11 years.

The event project group focused on a vision for the series of: "engaging with the Australian and international communities to produce a memorable 2007 International Series, inspiring the world's elite players to perform at their best in an environment of rivalry, passion and excellence." Specific focus was placed on the development and implementation of Event Operational plans to enhance the event experience for the players, officials, spectators, television audience and stakeholders and to assist in the delivery of events in the future.

### Future Direction

Entering a new phase in event delivery, the International Test Series will serve to provide an opportunity for Australia to compete in more regular international competition within Australia and deliver an event which is financially profitable for Netball Australia. By delivering a high quality netball event experience for the sporting/entertainment consumer, International Tests will aim to provide a mechanism to market the sport of netball to the Australian community.



### Commonwealth Bank Trophy/ANZ Championship

After 13 rounds, the final season of the Commonwealth Bank Trophy culminated in a Finals Series weekend at Acer Arena in Sydney. The Finals Series focused on a 'celebration' of the 11 years of the competition, with representatives from all teams invited to participate in pre-match entertainment and the Grand Final Brunch, in a fitting finale to the competition.

### Future Direction

The inaugural season of the ANZ Championship hits the courts in 2008 and Netball Australia will be responsible for its delivery in Australia. Netball Australia will support the strategic planning process for the new competition, developing the operational requirements in Australia, and supporting both the Australian Member Organisations and the Auckland-based ANZ Championship office.

In addition, Netball Australia will oversee the planning and delivery of a new Australian Netball League (ANL) to ensure high operational standards necessary for a top-level domestic competition to assist in the progression of athletes from national to international level.

## National Netball Championships

Netball Australia coordinated the hosting of the combined 17/U and 19/U National Championships in Victoria, and the 21/U Championships in Brisbane. Both Netball Victoria and Netball Queensland hosted successful events on behalf of Netball Australia.

### Future Direction

The Athlete's Foot National Netball Championships featuring 17/U, 19/U and 21/U age groups will be held at the Challenge Stadium in Perth, Western Australia, from April 1-9.

## Netball Awards Dinner

The Annual Awards Dinner was held at the Langham Hotel in Melbourne, celebrating Australian netball's achievements over the past 12 months. The night was very successful, with hosts Anne Sargeant, Steve Allan and comedian Damian Callinan entertaining the guests between award presentations.

### Future Direction

The 2008 Netball Awards Dinner will be held once again at the Langham Hotel in Melbourne on November 29.



## Commonwealth Bank Trophy 1997-2007



Sydney TAB Swifts wrote its name into the record books becoming the last championship team in Australia's premier netball competition, the Commonwealth Bank Trophy. The Swifts won their fourth title, adding the 2007 honours to championship victories in 2001, 2004 and 2006. After 11 highly-successful years, the Commonwealth Bank Trophy was farewelled in a gala weekend of finals action at Sydney's Acer Arena.

Inaugural champions, Melbourne First National Phoenix finished as the competition's most successful team, winning five titles in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2005. The Medibank Adelaide Thunderbirds was the only other team to win a championship, with back-to-back victories in 1998 and 1999.

The Commonwealth Bank Trophy provided a platform for Australia's best players to contest each week towards the ultimate prize – the championship title. Interstate rivalry fostered a vibrant competition and reputations were forged in front of bumper crowds.

A major feature of the Commonwealth Bank Trophy was the development of a successful player pathway from club to national representation. Coaches and umpires also developed their skills as the game became more professional.

The hosting of matches in the key metropolitan cities and regional centres reflected Netball Australia's commitment to extend the sport's reach to all Australians. ABC TV's commitment

to broadcast the competition created further opportunities for all Australians to watch the best players in action.

The generous support of the Commonwealth Bank over an 11 year partnership took netball to a new level and was fundamental in providing opportunities for Australian players, coaches, umpires and administrators to aspire to match it with the best.

We thank the Commonwealth Bank, not only for its support of the Commonwealth Bank Trophy, but also its commitment to grass roots development through the Commonwealth Bank Development Fund. Special thanks to all the players, coaches, umpires, administrators, sponsors, volunteers and the fans who supported the Commonwealth Bank Trophy over the past 11 years.



**CommonwealthBank**  
Trophy



## Corporate Services

### NMAS

The National Membership Administration System (NMAS) is a comprehensive information management system for netball that includes a website, a database, a competition module and an online store. Member Organisations have been working together to register all affiliates and individual members in each state. The system is currently used by all Member Organisations and the rollout continues to ensure all stakeholders can use the system to its full potential.

### Future Direction

All Member Organisations will be included in the NMAS system allowing greater synergies throughout the organisation. Once this has been completed, Netball Australia will work to integrate NMAS into Netball Australia's business systems and build and maintain a national policy framework.

### National Insurance Program

The Netball Australia Risk Protection Program arranged by JLT Sport has been operating for a number of years. This joint initiative of Netball Australia and its Member Organisations has seen a number of benefits provided to clubs throughout each state and territory. The goal is to provide sustainable cover and long term solutions.

### Future Direction

Netball Australia will continue to source and manage the National Risk Protection Program and manage the Netball Australia Players' Injury Medical Expenses Discretionary Fund. In 2008, NSW and ACT will use an alternate insurance provider to JLT Sport.



### Human Resources

Netball Australia is responsible for the recruitment and development of its national head office staff. The Human Resources policy is based on our core values - Passion, Teamwork, Integrity, Excellence and Accountability.

### Future Direction

An individual and whole of organisation people development plan will be implemented that incorporates professional and personal development, and a well-being program.

## Lyn Clark-Duff - 2007 Service Award Recipient

### How did you become involved in the sport?

Although I played 'ladies basketball' at high school, I had no further involvement until after the birth of my first daughter. I joined a local team and soon took on roles such as team manager, club treasurer and secretary. When it became known that I was a Chartered Accountant, I was asked to take on the role as Treasurer and eventually joined the Netball Australia Finance Committee as Treasurer/Finance Director. In more recent years, I have enjoyed managing teams in the NSW State League, including the Sydney Storm.



### What has been the highlight during your long involvement in netball?

At the national level, it was very satisfying to be involved in Netball Australia's decision to take the national competition to the next level with the introduction of the Commonwealth Bank Trophy. I think I was most excited when the world record for the number of spectators at a netball match was broken at Sydney Olympic Park. More recently, whilst still on the board of Netball Australia, I took part in another momentous business decision to proceed with the new trans-Tasman competition and I am very excited about the possibilities that this competition will create for netball and for the sport's elite players.

### You have dedicated an enormous amount of time and energy as a volunteer, what motivates you to continue?

I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of a team environment, whether it was as a team manager, on the committee of a local club or district association or as a company director of Netball Australia. I like the fact that there is a role for everyone on the team - both on and off the court - and every role is important to the overall success. I still enjoy watching the game at all levels of competition.

### What opportunities do you see for others to become involved "behind the scenes"?

One of the great strengths of our sport has been efficient administration and event management from the ground level up. There are many roles in administration, coaching and officiating which can be very rewarding. Once people get involved they will find there are numerous opportunities to use their skills and experience.

## Awards

### 2007 Netball Australia Annual Awards

The 2007 Netball Australia Awards Dinner at Melbourne's Langham Hotel was the sport's night to shine. The evening brought together the netball family to acknowledge and reflect on Netball's outstanding achievements in 2007. Just a week before, the Australian Netball Team had been welcomed home as the newly crowned World Champions, a fitting finale to a very successful year in the sport's history.

#### Gatorade Umpire of the Year

Sharon Kelly

#### JLT Sport Coach of the Year

Julie Fitzgerald, Sydney TAB Swifts

#### ASC Best New Netball Talent

Ashlee Howard,  
Allied Pickfords Melbourne Kestrels

#### ASC Players' Player of the Year

Leah Shoard, AIS Canberra Darters

#### Netball Australia Service Award

Lyn Clark-Duff

#### Margaret Pewtress Team of the Year

- GS:** Catherine Cox,  
Sydney TAB Swifts
- GA:** Sharelle McMahon,  
Melbourne First National Phoenix
- WA:** Laura von Bertouch,  
Medibank Adelaide Thunderbirds
- C:** Natalie von Bertouch,  
Medibank Adelaide Thunderbirds
- WD:** Peta Scholz,  
Medibank Adelaide Thunderbirds
- GD:** Julie Prendergast,  
Allied Pickfords Melbourne Kestrels
- GK:** Liz Ellis,  
Sydney TAB Swifts



#### 2007 Commonwealth Bank Trophy

##### Most Valued Player:

Sharelle McMahon,  
Melbourne First National Phoenix

##### ASICS Australian Team Player of the Year:

Natalie von Bertouch

##### Holden Player of the World Championships

Mo'onia Gerrard

#### Media Awards

##### Best Print/Electronic Story

Linda Pearce, The Age

##### Best Photograph

Ray Titus, The Advertiser

##### Television/Feature Story

Bruce McKendry, Channel 10 Queensland

##### Radio Interview/Feature

Peter Walsh, ABC Radio Sport

##### Overall Coverage, Tanya Denver Award

Warren Partland, The Advertiser

## Awards

### Individual Milestones and Retirements

#### Australian Netball Team

- Australian captain, **Liz Ellis** retired just two days after leading the national team to World Championship glory. Her brilliant 18-year career included three World Championships titles, two Commonwealth Games gold medals and four Commonwealth Bank Trophy titles.
- Australian player and Adelaide Thunderbirds captain, 26-year-old **Laura von Bertouch** bid farewell to netball to pursue other career opportunities. Debuting for Australia in July 2006, von Bertouch was known for her court speed and was a member of the 2007 World Championship team.
- **Selina Gilsean** retired after the World Championships from the international arena but she will contest the ANZ Championship with the NSW Swifts.
- Former Australian player and Adelaide Thunderbirds mid-courter **Peta Scholz** retired after a stellar career. Scholz first represented Australia in 1990, won a World Championships title in 1999 and a Commonwealth Games gold medal in 2002.
- Former Australian representative, **Natalie Avellino** retired after three decades at the top of her sport. Avellino was a key member of Australia's 1995 World Championships team.

#### Commonwealth Bank Trophy

- Liz Ellis (Swifts), Catherine Cox (Swifts, Orioles), Peta Scholz (Thunderbirds), Sharelle McMahon (Phoenix) and Ingrid Dick (Phoenix) were the only players to contest all 11 years of the competition.
- Julie Fitzgerald (Swifts) coached in all 11 seasons, winning four titles.
- Debra Farrelly, Jacqui Jashari and Donna Davey officiated matches throughout the 11 years of competition.
- Wendy Jacobson (Phoenix), Peta Stephens (Firebirds) and Laura von Bertouch (Thunderbirds) reached their 100<sup>th</sup> match milestone in 2007.

- Sharelle McMahon from Melbourne First National Phoenix was the Commonwealth Bank Trophy all-time leading goal scorer with 4,893 goals at 84 percent accuracy.

#### International Debuts

Victorian, **Julie Prendergast** became the 142<sup>nd</sup> player to represent Australia when she took the court on July 8 against Jamaica at the State Netball Hockey Centre in Melbourne. South Australian shooter, **Natalie Medhurst** made her debut in the same match, shooting at 100 percent accuracy. Queenslander, **Lauren Nourse** took the court for Australia on July 21 against New Zealand at Vodafone Arena in Melbourne.

#### Life Members / Service Award Holders

**Lyn Clark-Duff** was the sole recipient of the Netball Australia Service Award for 2007. Lyn has been involved in netball at the grass roots level for over 17 years having held a number of administrative and management positions at club and district association level. A qualified accountant, auditor and tax agent, Lyn was a member of the Netball Australia Finance Committee from 1991-1995. She was also Finance Director of the National Netball League, AANA Finance Director and a member of the AANA Management Committee. She served as a Director of Netball Australia from 1992 to 2007.

#### Vale

**Avis Boyce** was an early pioneer of the game and served in many roles over a long involvement in the sport, including President of Netball South Australia. She served as President of the All Australia Netball Association (now Netball Australia) in 1969 as part of the rotating Presidential system and played a key role in the organisation of the 1967 All Australia Games. An active administrator in South Australia, Avis was also a successful businesswoman.

## Sponsors & Partners

Netball Australia acknowledges the outstanding support of our sponsors and partners to ensure the sport's continued development. This builds the financial foundation that underpins the success of netball in Australia.

### Australian Sports Commission (ASC)

Principal Partner

The Australian Government, through the ASC, is the principal partner for netball in Australia. The provision of substantial financial resources, as well as intellectual and human resources, allows us to effectively manage our high performance program, undertake research, increase participation through specific programs and improve our monitoring and reporting functions as a national sporting body. Netball Australia appreciates the ASC's recognition of the cultural significance as well as the sporting significance of netball.



### Commonwealth Bank

Naming Rights Sponsor Commonwealth Bank Trophy (CBT)

As the naming rights sponsor of the elite domestic competition since its inception in 1997, the Commonwealth Bank has contributed significantly to netball. The competition and sponsorship concluded this year with a major celebration of the 11 year history and relationship.



### GM Holden

Sponsor of the Holden Netball Test Series and Australian Netball Team

Australian icon Holden has been a sponsor of the International Test Match Series since 2004. In 2007 Holden increased its commitment to include the Australian Netball Team during its World Netball Championships campaign. In an unprecedented show of support, Holden rewarded each member of the World Netball Championship team with a Holden Astra.



### Australian Institute of Sport

Official Training Centre of Australian Open and 21/U Squads

As home of Australia's elite netball program for the Australian Open, 21/U Squads, national coach Norma Plummer and AIS Head Coach Simone McKinnis, the AIS provides world class facilities and support to all athletes and staff.



### Commonwealth Games Association of Australia

Australian Netball Team Supporter

As the national body responsible for Commonwealth Games operations, publicity and development in Australia, the ACGA supports the Australian Netball Team specifically providing funding, clothing, travel, accommodation and accreditation of athletes and officials to each Commonwealth Games. The ACGA is a key partner in Australia's bid to win a Gold Medal in 2010 at the 19th Commonwealth Games.





### ABC Sport

Official Telecast Rights Holder

ABC Television continued weekly national coverage of the Commonwealth Bank Trophy competition and International Tests.



### ASICS

Official Footwear and Apparel Supplier

ASICS ensured the Australian teams, Commonwealth Bank Trophy teams and umpires benefited from the latest fabric and design technology.



### Gilbert

Official Ball Supplier

Gilbert balls were used at the Holden Netball Test Series, the Commonwealth Bank Trophy and all National Championships.



### Bendon Sport

Official Sports Bra of the Australian Netball Team

Bendon Sport continues to deliver the best in high impact support and endurance underwear for the Australian Netball Team.



### Gatorade

Official Sports Drink

Gatorade provides athletes with the best possible hydration and recovery techniques to assist their performance.



### Skins

2007 Supplier

Skins compression garments worn by the Australian Netball Team are designed to enhance athlete recovery and performance.



### JLT Sport

2007 Sponsor

JLT Sport is the leading provider of national and state based sports insurance, risk solutions and risk management programs in Australia.



### Harris

2007 Sponsor

Harris Coffee supported junior development in a major grassroots initiative via local associations and state member organisations.



### Total Girl

2007 Sponsor

Total Girl magazine provided promotion and exposure for netball and the Australian Netball Team to the "Tween" market.



### Nestlé

2007 Sponsor

In addition to sponsoring Australian captain Liz Ellis, Nestle undertook a netball sampling launch of Light & Creamy in the eastern states.



### The Athlete's Foot

2007 Sponsor

Naming rights sponsor of the 17/U and 19/U National Netball Championships supporting the development of emerging players.



### King Gee

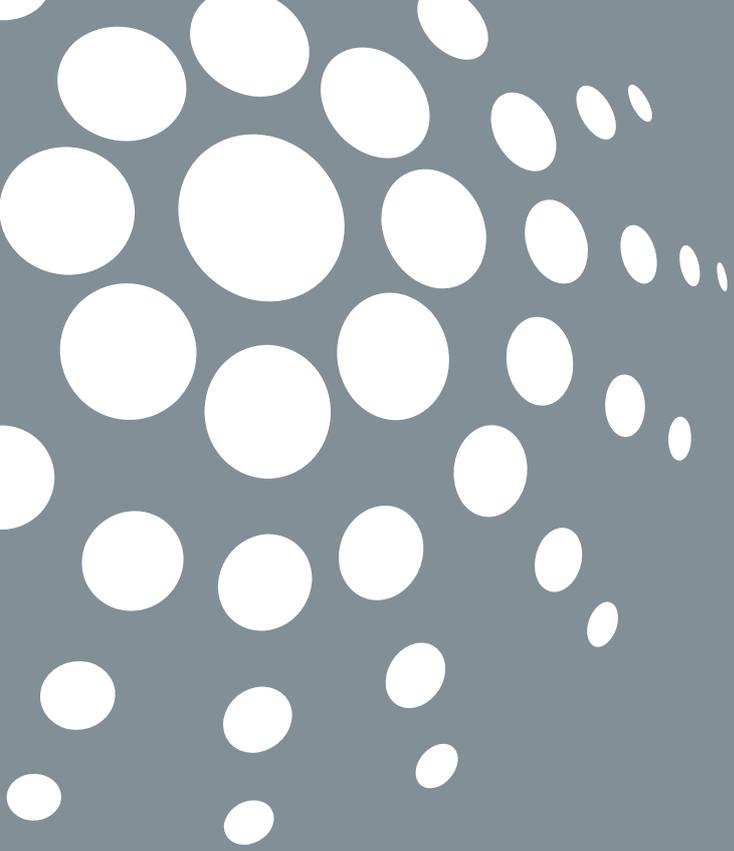
2007 Sponsor

The Australian Netball Team proudly wore King Gee off-court uniforms at the 2007 New World Netball World Championships.

## Commonwealth Bank Trophy Team Naming Rights Sponsors

During the 11th and final year the Commonwealth Bank Trophy team naming rights sponsors were an integral part of the each team's preparation and success.





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Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission